

Amendments to the Claims:

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (new): A terminal coupled to a control apparatus having a database via a network, and a storage medium having a unique ID information. The terminal comprising:

- a unit that accepts input of information to be stored in association with the ID information of the storage medium;

- a unit that reads out the ID information from the storage medium;

- a unit that transmits the accepted information and the ID information to the control apparatus via the network, to have the accepted information and the ID information related with each other and stored in the database;

- a unit that receives a notice of the completion of the storing; and

- a unit that indicates the completion of the storing in response to the receipt of the notice.

Claim 22 (new): The terminal according to claim 21, wherein the storage medium further stores authentication information for authenticating the ID information; the unit that reads out further reads out the authentication information from the storage medium; and the unit that transmits further transmits the authentication information with the ID information, to have the validity of the ID information checked on the basis of the authentication information.

Claim 23 (new): A terminal coupled to a control apparatus having a database via a network and a storage medium having a unique ID information. The terminal comprising:

- a unit that reads out the ID information from the storage medium;

- a unit that transmits the ID information to the control apparatus; and

a unit that receives information which has been stored in the database and was retrieved based on the ID information.

Claim 24 (new): The terminal according to claim 23 further comprising a unit that displays the retrieved stored information associated with the retrieved ID information.

Claim 25 (new): Apparatus according to claim 23:

wherein the storage medium further stores attribute information;

wherein the terminal further comprises:

a temporary database;

a unit that stores some of the pieces of ID information and some of the pieces of stored information that have been stored in the database of the control apparatus and are associated with at least one attribute information in the temporary database;

wherein the unit that reads out further reads out the attribute information from the storage medium, checks whether or not the ID information that is associated with the attribute information read out is stored in the temporary database,

wherein, if the ID information that is associated with the attribute information is not stored in the temporary database, the terminal executes the steps of:

retrieving ID information and stored information associated with the attribute information from the database of the control apparatus; and

updating the temporary database by using the information retrieved from the control apparatus.

Claim 26 (new): The terminal according to claim 25,

wherein, if the ID information is stored in the temporary database, the terminal executes the steps of:

searching the temporary database for the sum of the pieces of ID information based on the attribute information read out from the storage medium; and

having the display unit display the stored information associated with searched ID information.

Claim 27 (new): The terminal according to claim 23,

wherein the storage medium further stores authentication information for authenticating the ID information;

wherein the unit that reads out further reads out the authentication information from the storage medium and

wherein the unit that transmits further transmits the ID information with the authentication information, to have the validity of the ID information checked on the basis of the authentication information.